The Atomic Age
Peak & Decline of the Studio Era
1946 – The Box Office Peak

• 1947  Network TV
• 1947  HUAC
• 1948  Paramount Consent Decree
Hollywood & American Politics

- 1930s Popular Front & Stalin
- Hollywood Guilds & Unions
- 1938 House Committee on UnAmerican Activities (HUAC)
- 1939 Hitler-Stalin alliance
- Summer 1941 Anti Interventionist Hearings
- Dec 1941 Pearl Harbor
- The Mob, IATSE, & Roy Brewer
- Herbert Sorrell & the CSU
1947 HUAC Investigation into Communism in Hollywood

• Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals
• The Cold War 1945-1991
• Oct 1947 – The Hollywood Ten
• Committee for the First Amendment
The Cold War in Hollywood 1947-1959

• The Blacklist
• 1951  HUAC hearings – Naming names
• 1959  Otto Preminger hires Dalton Trumbo
Paramount Consent Decree

• 1938  US Attorney Thurman Arnold begins Dept of Justice lawsuits
• 1948  US Supreme Court Decision
• 1948  Paramount, RKO Consent Decrees
• 1950  Warners, Fox
• 1955 Loew’s-MGM
Impact of Divestiture 1948-

- Theater chains now separate entities
- Decrease in productions
- Decline of long term contracts
- Reduce overhead
- Studio lots rented
Independent Production

• Capital gains tax lower than income tax
• Independent production companies develop projects
• Producer/director/star has more control of projects and career
MCA & Lew Wasserman  1913-2002

• Talent Agency
• Jules Stein
• Points of the gross
• Packaging
• Revue
• Universal
• 1963 Agency sold
UA & Arthur Krim 1910-1994

• 1951  Arthur Krim & Robert Benjamin
• Production Financing & Distribution
Crime Pictures - Film Noir

- Hard boiled detective fiction
- German expressionism
- 40’s social change
- Femme fatale
- 1941 THE MALTESE FALCON Huston
- 1944 LAURA Preminger
- 1944 DOUBLE INDEMNITY Wilder
- 1944-6 THE BIG SLEEP Hawks
Crime Pictures

• 1945 SCARLET STREET Lang
• 1946 THE KILLERS Siodmak
• 1947 LADY FROM SHANGHAI Welles
• 1947 OUT OF THE PAST Tourneur
• 1947 PURSUED Walsh
• 1948 RAW DEAL Mann
• 1950 GUN CRAZY Lewis